

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claim 74, amend claims 70-73, and 76-87, and add claims 88-91, as indicated below.

1 – 69 (Cancelled).

70. (Currently Amended) A power management system for managing a plurality of modular power supplies for a computer system, the system comprising:

a monitor circuit coupled to receive information from each said modular power supply of a ~~the plurality of modular power supplies of the computer system~~, the plurality of modular power supplies for powering the computer system or subcomponents of the computer system, the plurality of modular power supplies being groupable so that a first group of two or more of the modular power supplies can power a first subcomponent of the computer system, and a second group of at least one of the modular power supplies can power a different second subcomponent of the computer system,

wherein from the information the monitor circuit is operable to identify ~~a state of each said power supply of the plurality of power supplies, to identify a~~ respective state associated with ~~at least one group of two or more of the plurality~~ the first and second groups of modular power supplies, and to generate an alert reflective of any said state;

an alert system circuit operable to receive the alert and communicate with a user concerning the alert.

71. (Currently Amended) The power management system of claim 70, wherein the ~~monitor circuit is operable to identify a state of a plurality of said groups, each said group of the plurality of said groups comprising~~ second group comprises two or more of the plurality of modular power supplies.

72. (Currently Amended) The power management system of claim 70, wherein said state ~~associated with the group of two or more of the plurality of power supplies~~ comprises a characteristic of the first or second group, relative to a threshold.

73. (Currently Amended) The power management system of claim 70, wherein the monitor circuit is operable to store a value associated with the first or second group, and to derive rate of change information relative to the stored value.

74. (Cancelled).

75. (Previously Presented) The power management system of claim 70, wherein the alarm system circuit is operable to communicate with a user by taking an action selected from a set of actions comprising: initiating an electronic message to be sent to the user, writing an entry into a log, initiating a visual signal, and initiating an email to the user.

76. (Currently Amended) A method of managing power for a computer system powered by a plurality of modular power supplies ~~of the computer system~~, the

method comprising:

powering the computer system ~~or subcomponents of the computer system~~ with a plurality of modular power supplies ~~of the computer system~~;

~~monitoring an electrical condition of each of the plurality of power supplies~~;

grouping two or more, but less than all, of the plurality of modular power supplies into a first group for powering a first subcomponent of the computer system;

grouping at least one other of the plurality of modular power supplies into a second group for powering a different second subcomponent of the computer system;

monitoring ~~an~~ a respective electrical condition of the first and second groups of ~~two or more~~ of the plurality of modular power supplies; and

based on the respective said monitored electrical condition of the first or second groups, determining whether to communicate a state of the first or second group ~~of two or more of the plurality of power supplies~~ to a user.

77. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76, further comprising comparing the respective monitored electrical condition of the first and second groups to a respective threshold.

78. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76, further comprising, based on said monitoring, communicating the state of the first or second group ~~of two or more of the power supplies~~ to the user.

79. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 78, wherein the state of the

first or second group is communicated by taking an action selected from a set of actions comprising: initiating an electronic message to be sent to the user, writing an entry into a log, initiating a visual signal, and initiating an email to the user.

80. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76, further comprising, based on said monitoring, performing an ameliorative act in response to the electrical condition of the first or second group.

81. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76, further comprising determining whether the electrical condition of the first or second groups has violated a threshold.

82. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76, further comprising determining rate of change information for said respective electrical condition of the first and second group.

83. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
providing power to a computer system ~~or to subcomponents of the computer system~~ using a plurality of modular power supplies ~~of the computer system~~;
grouping the plurality of modular power supplies into a plurality of groups, ~~each~~ at least one said group comprising at least two, but less than all, of the modular power supplies, wherein each said group provides power to a different subcomponent of the computer system;

monitoring each of said modular power supplies and each of said groups; and
based on said monitoring, generating information concerning a state of a said
group of the modular power supplies; and
~~communicating said information to a user.~~

84. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 82 83, further comprising
communicating said information to a user, wherein the state of the group is
communicated by taking an action selected from a set of actions comprising: initiating
an electronic message to be sent to the user, writing an entry into a log, initiating a
visual signal, and initiating an email to the user.

85. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 82 83, further comprising,
based on said monitoring, performing an ameliorative act in response to the ~~electrical~~
~~condition~~ state of a said group.

86. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 82 83, further comprising
determining whether the state of the group of two or more of the modular power
supplies has violated a threshold.

87. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 82 83, further comprising
determining rate of change information for said ~~electrical condition~~ state of a said group
of the modular power supplies.

88. (New) The power management system of claim 70, further comprising a user interface to effectuate grouping of the plurality of modular power supplies.

89. (New) The power management system of claim 70, wherein grouping of respective ones of the plurality of modular power supplies to the first and second groups is hardcoded.

90. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein the grouping is done manually.

91. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein the grouping is hardcoded.